

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TITLE: TIME DISPLAY APPARATUS

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus ~~including~~ comprising:

a display unit and

a control unit, the display unit being ~~provided with~~ comprised of an indicator portion of variable area ~~and~~, the control unit being operative to alter the area of the indicator portion in accordance with ~~the~~ minutes of ~~the~~ time to be displayed, ~~the or an additional~~ control unit being operative to alter ~~the~~ visual appearance of the indicator portion, without altering the area of the indicator portion, exclusively in accordance with ~~the~~ hour of the time to be displayed,

~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said display unit ~~includes~~ comprises a color display, ~~and the~~ control unit ~~is being~~ operative to alter ~~the~~ color of the indicator portion exclusively in accordance with the hour of the time to be displayed.

2. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the indicator portion has ~~the~~ a shape of a generally rectangular bar, the control unit being operative to alter ~~the~~ length of the bar in accordance with the first unit of time to be displayed.

3. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the indicator portion has ~~the~~ a shape of a segment of an annulus, the control unit being operative to alter the

circumferential extent of the indicator portion in accordance with ~~the~~ a first unit of time to be displayed.

4. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the indicator portion has ~~the~~ a shape of a segment of a circle, the control unit being operative to alter ~~the~~ an angle subtended by the segment in accordance with the first unit of time to be displayed.

5. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to ~~any preceding claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the control unit is operative to increase the area of the indicator portion as ~~the~~ a value of the first unit of time to be displayed increases.

6. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus according to ~~any preceding claim~~ Claim 1, wherein the display unit ~~includes~~ is comprised of a liquid crystal display, ~~a part of which forms the thereof forming said~~ indicator portion.

7. (Currently amended) A timepiece ~~including~~ comprising:

a display unit and

a control unit, the display unit being ~~provided with~~ comprised of an indicator portion of variable area ~~and~~, the control unit being operative to alter ~~the~~ an area of the indicator portion in accordance with ~~the~~ minutes of ~~the~~ time to be displayed ~~and~~, the ~~or an additional~~ control unit being operative to alter ~~the~~ visual appearance of the indicator portion, without altering the area of the indicator portion, exclusively in accordance ~~the~~ an hour of the time to be displayed,

~~characterised in that the~~ wherein said display unit ~~includes~~ comprises a color display, ~~and the~~ control unit ~~is~~ being operative to alter ~~the~~ color of the indicator portion exclusively in accordance with the hour of the time to be displayed.

8. (Currently amended) A time display apparatus substantially as hereinbefore described in Claim 1 with reference to and/or as shown in the accompanying drawings.

9. (Currently amended) A timepiece substantially as hereinbefore described in Claim 1 with reference to and/or as shown in the accompanying drawings.

10. (Currently amended) Any novel feature or novel combination of features as hereinbefore described in Claim 1 with reference to and/or as shown in the accompanying drawings.